

Soc 4-01, 4 The Silencers

Spying Hits New Low With Dino

THE SPY BIT has degenerated to Dean Martin. The character is Donald Hamilton's Matt Helm and the story, if it can be called that, has been distilled from that writer's "The Silencers" and "Death of a Citizen." The picture is titled "The Silencers," it's at the Town and you can have it. As David Merrick wrote the drama critic: "At your peril."

There was originality in the James Bond series and a brilliant kind of serious wit is in the Palace's "Our Man Flint." We rejoice he is to have another adventure.

David Niven was suave in "Where the Spies Are" and Horst Bucholz was absurd as "That Man in Istanbul." Dirk Bogarde had fun as "Secret Agent 8½" and Tom Adams looked fitfully like Sean Connery in "The Second Best Secret Agent in the Whole Wide World." They made a single "Man from UNCLE" movie out of two TV episodes, "To Trap a Spy" and "The Man with My Face."

Now, under the misguided direction of Phil Karlson and an adaptation by Oscar Saul, we have Martin in his booziest

humor, double-entending every line.

The action begins with a strip tease by poor old Cyd Charisse and links onto a Chinese plot to misdirect a U.S. missile to destroy New Mexico. "The Silencers," lacking any

semblance of wit or adroitness, is a wholly sickening picture, suggesting that ancients like Martin can booze it up while driving and still come out a winner. Every other moment is tasteless and I was even sorry for Stella Stevens, who has a painfully unfunny scene falling around in the mud.

R. L. O.

"THE SILENCERS." Columbia release produced by Irving Allen. Screenplay by Oscar Saul from two books by Donald Hamilton, "The Silencers" and "Death of a Citizen." Photographed in Pathe Color by Burnett Guffey. Music by Elmer Bernstein. Directed by Phil Karlson. At the Town.

THE CAST

Matt Helm	Dean Martin
Gail	Stella Stevens
Tina	Dalliah Lavi
Tung-Tze	Victor Buono
Wigman	Arthur O'Connell
Sam Gunther	Robert Webber
MacDonald	James Gregory
Barbara	Nancy Kovack
Andreyev	Roger C. Carmel
Sarita	Cyd Charisse
Lovely Kravetz	Beverly Adams
Domino	Richard Devon
Dr. Naldi	David Bond
Traynor	John Reach
1st Armed Man	Robert Phillips
M.C.	John Willis
Frazier	Frank Gerstle
Radio Man	Grant Woods
Hotel Clerk	Patrick Walters